

Approved For Release 1999/09/17 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000100410005-4

U.S. Lodges

Protest on
Sofia Riot

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Bulgarian Mob

Stones Legation;

Payment Sought

By Anatole Shub

Special to The Washington Post

SOFIA, Dec. 27 — Com-

munist Bulgaria staged a riot in front of the United States legation this morning, on the second day of an anti-American spy trial here.

A crowd of three thousand demonstrators smashed the legation windows, defaced diplomatic automobiles and roughed up legation employees.

The melee lasted more than half an hour before Bulgarian mounted police finally arrived and slowly began to restore order.

Richard D. Johnson, American charge d'affaires, lodged a formal protest with the Bulgarian foreign ministry this afternoon. A crowd of more than a thousand was still gathered across the street from the legation at nightfall.

[In Washington, the State Department demanded that Bulgaria pay for damages to the legation.]

No Precautions Taken

Although Sofia had been tense ever since yesterday's opening of the trial of Asen Georgiev, a Bulgarian diplomat accused of working for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, Bulgarian authorities had taken no special precautions to protect the U.S. legation. In fact, next door to the legation, the Bulgarians had mounted an elaborate exhibit of Georgiev's alleged spy paraphernalia, including supposed instructions received directly from the C. I. A.

morning published sharp attacks on the United States, including personal insinuations against four Western newsmen covering the trial.

Just after 11 this morning a small group of Bulgarians began throwing snowballs and blocks of ice at the legation door and its three large display windows. When legation employees appeared to bolt doors, this group dispersed. At 11:10, however, large masses of demonstrators began pouring in from surrounding streets.

Autos Wrecked

Legation employees appealed immediately to the Bulgarian police and foreign ministry for protection. The crowd, however, ripped headlamps and doorhandles off American cars and began throwing these auto parts as well as ice and bricks at the legation.

By 11:30, when the demonstration reached its height, all windows on the ground and second floors of the legation had been shattered.

The first policemen appeared 10 minutes later and the street in front of the legation was not fully cleared until 12:10.

The legation is located just four short blocks from the Palace of Justice where the Georgiev trial is being held.

The trial thus far has struck foreign observers as a Balkan mixture of the Penkovsky and Profumo affairs. The defendant, a 57-year-old jurist and expert on Hegelian philosophy, was former counselor of Bulgaria's permanent U.N. mission in New York and also represented his country at world conferences on space law.

In a confusing and often contradictory confession, he claims to have received \$200,000 from American intelligence agents but used the money only to support several of the more needy among his 10 alleged mistresses.

No Explanation Found

However, neither the government indictment nor the defendant in the two days of testimony have offered any explanation of just why Georgiev supposedly volunteered to work for C.I.A. in 1954 or why he came to be accused in a Moscow hotel three months ago.

The court has announced it will hear depositions and testimony from some thirty witnesses after Georgiev leaves the stand.

indication here of any word from the two most fascinating figures in the case: Princeton University historian Cyril E. Black, who Georgiev claims, was his chief C.I.A. contact, and Rosa Aronovna, a diplomatic colleague now in Israel.

[In Princeton, N.J., Black called the allegation "a complete fabrication . . . so preposterous that it should not be dignified by a detailed rebuttal." United Press International reported.

State Dept. Demands

Payment for Damages

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

Staff Reporter

The State Department demanded yesterday that Bulgaria make up the damage done to the U.S. legation by a Sofia mob. Protests asking for restoration or compensation were delivered to Bulgarian diplomats here and in Sofia.

Officials in Washington were reluctant to say that the riot would halt or reverse the recently promising developments in American-Bulgarian relations.

But in Winooski, Vt., where she was vacationing, U.S. Minister to Bulgaria Eugenie Anderson said the attack was "a real setback for relations between Bulgaria and the United States, which had been showing improvement."

No Comment on Cause

There was no official comment on the ostensible cause of the Sofia demonstration, alleged (and denied) American ties with a Bulgarian diplomat currently being tried as a spy.

However, the State Department press officer, Richard I. Phillips, said in response to a question that "we assume the Bulgars are carrying out this show trial for their own purposes."

Weighing those "purposes," officials privately suggested that Stalinist factions in the Bulgarian government may have staged the riot in order to embarrass Premier Todor Zhivkov and to undo his policy of friendliness to the United States.

Sofia is a couple of steps behind Moscow in deStalinizing. Hard-line Communists, in a jeremiad of the little light so far let in from the West, are known to persist in power at levels just below the top. Their hold was strong enough to briefly support rumors of Zhivkov's imminent downfall a few months ago.

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Leaned Toward U.S.

In a single year, Zhivkov had moved Bulgaria a considerable distance towards Washington. A cultural and educational exchange agreement was signed in January.

World War II damage claims were settled in July. In the same month the first U.S. exhibition opened in Sofia, and Bulgaria was allowed to open a commercial office in New York. In August Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman became the first U.S. cabinet member to visit.

The American Minister, Mrs. Anderson, twice was allowed to speak on Bulgaria's national radio-television system. She learned Bulgarian and apparently was well received in her efforts to promote closer American-Bulgarian contact.

This advance fitted into the broad American policy of helping willing satellites to move out of complete dependence on the Soviet Union.

However, relations had not progressed to the point most sought by Sofia, trade. To get its stalled economy moving, Bulgaria has sought trading opportunities, credits and export license relaxations from Washington.